



TREASURER-TAX COLLECTOR

DANIEL V. McALLISTER
TREASURER-TAX COLLECTOR

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For Immediate Release

DATE: September 22, 2003 **CONTACT:** Dan McAllister
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TAX BILLS ARE IN THE MAIL!!

San Diego County Residents Mailed almost 900,000 Bills

Dan McAllister, San Diego County's Treasurer-Tax Collector, announced today that over the next ten days the County will mail nearly 900,000 statements and property tax bills for the 2003-04 tax year to San Diego County property owners.

The bills are expected to generate more than \$2.6 billion, which represents the largest single source of revenues to local governments, school and fire districts and the County.

This year, real property in San Diego County has a combined assessed valuation of nearly \$241 billion, an increase of \$22 billion over last year's total valuation. The valuation is the highest in County history. Under the guidelines established by Proposition 13 in 1978, counties in California collect 1% of their assessed valuation for real property. Additionally, counties may collection for voter approved bonds and special district fees where applicable.

Each year the billing process is triggered by completion of the "tax roll" by the County Assessor with individual bill payment calculations completed by the County Auditor. The statements and tax bills are then printed and mailed by the Auditor in conjunction with the Treasurer-Tax Collector's Office.

"This is a real team effort here at the County. We want to make sure that all property owners receive their tax bills in a timely manner so they can plan their payments and avoid any

costly penalties,” said McAllister. “Payments are due in two equal installments on December 10, 2003 and April 10, 2004.”

“Late payments automatically trigger late charges of 10% on the first installment payment; an additional penalty of 10% plus a \$10 cost fee is applied on the second installment if it is late.

McAllister said, “Remarkably enough, and in spite of the best efforts of our team here at the County to assure proper current addresses of our property owners, an estimated 15,000 bills or 1.7% of all those we mail, will be returned as “undeliverable” by the Post Office. It is important to remind taxpayers that even if they do not receive their property tax bills due to an incorrect address, *they are still liable for the bill.*

“Anyone who does not receive their property tax bill within the next three weeks should call the Treasurer-Tax Collector’s Office at (619) 236-2424 to obtain a copy”, McAllister concluded.

For Taxpayers’ convenience, payments can be made online at the Treasurer-Tax Collector
Website

www.sdtreastax.com

Taxpayers can conduct business at the Treasurer-Tax Collector’s main office located in the County Administration Center at 1600 Pacific Highway, Room 162 in downtown San Diego or at any of our four convenient branch offices located in Kearny Mesa, 9225 Clairemont Mesa Blvd, 1st Floor; 334 Via Vera Cruz, #150, behind “Restaurant Row” in San Marcos; 200 South Magnolia in El Cajon; and 590 Third Avenue, in Chula Vista.

Taxpayers may also call (619) 236-2424 for additional information.

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